

63-2836

5 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Carter

I note Item E in the notes of this morning's Check List reflecting concern in Hanoi over the Viet Cong morale in South Vietnam. This subject was discussed at some length at the Special Group (CI) yesterday, and it was the judgment of Mr. Thompson that when the rate of defections exceeded the rate of recruitments, and this became known, the tide of the battle will have turned and hence we could look to the future with considerable optimism. Thompson and others indicated that knowledge of the defection rate would have an important bearing on the corresponding recruitment rate.

I wonder if we are exploiting the news, which is very favorable particularly for the month of March, and if we are not doing so, can steps be taken by our station or by others to inform the South Vietnam population of the facts in the hope that they will be governed by them?


John A. McCone
Director

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE	16 Apr 63
TO:			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING		EXTENSION
REMARKS:			
Gen. Carter sent to Ex Dir: "Action designee please and follow up." - 8 Apr. ----- LBK asked FE orally on 9 April ; also wrote Action Memo 223 for DD/P, FE action. We have it on suspense.			
Rita			
FROM:			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION	
FORM NO. 1 FEB 55	241	REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.	GPO : 1957—O-439445 (47)